11: Taylor E-5 (ca. 1930-1937)1946
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to his wife. He would be expected to beat a lazy or unfaithful wife; though 593
when he comes home helplessly drunk, the roles are sometimes reversed. He may
also chastise or even expel from the household older children who repeatedly mis-
behave themselves. Up to the age of about five, children are treated with ex- 855
treme indulgence interspersed with sporadic displays of affection, temper, or in-
difference; and rarely learn to control their bodily functions until three or four.
Later training is almost solely confined to ridicule or chastisement; and Carib
parents rarely if ever question their adolescent children, or seek to direct or con-
trol their doings. Observation, not interrogation, is the rule; and even in adults,
silence is the only answer to an unwelcome question. A young girl found to be [836]
pregnant might receive a beating from her mother, especially should she not have
revealed her lover's identity; but pre-marital sex experience is, on the whole, taken
for granted by the present generation of Caribs. Adultery on the part of a hus- 684
band is not uncommon, and is regarded with indulgence provided that the wife
and children do not suffer neglect thereby. Adultery committed by the wife is
rarer, and much more severely judged, though it is unlikely to lead to a per-
manent separation. The guilty wife may be beaten, and some sort of reparation
demanded from her accomplice, who acquires a sort of right as the husband's
compagne (see term 20), however, to future privileges. The above remarks apply to any socially recognized, fairly permanent unions, legal or otherwise. The recent suicide of a man who had discovered his (extra-legal) wife's [762]
infidelity is said by his friends to have been due to shame at the girl's refusal to [152]
return and submit to being beaten.

That wives might be acquired in different ways, we learn from all sources. 583
A woman's daughters and her brothers' sons had a sort of prior claim on one
another, and often were promised by their parents almost as soon as born. Such
engagements were not enforced, however, if they later proved distasteful to the
young couple concerned or to their parents. Secondly, men might take wives
of their own choice (except among those they called mother, sister or daugh-
ter), provided that the girl and her parents consented. Thirdly, a noted chief
or war-chief might have to take to wife a girl presented to him, for fear of [727]
offending her parents. Finally, girls captured in war or otherwise seduced or
taken without their parents' consent were called by a distinctive term (19).
The former were often brought home as presents for the old men. Although
the status of this fourth class was apparently somewhat inferior to that of the [591]
other wives, that of their children in no way differed from the rest. Obviously,
such unions were patrilocal. Du Tertre[3] and Breton both cite cases of unions 836

3 J.-B. Du Tertre, *Histoire générale des Antilles* (Paris, 1667-1671).